



DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD



Inspection Report

Name of School: Trinity Catholic High School

LEA: Redbridge

Inspection Dates: 18th September 2009

Reporting Inspectors: Ms. Colette Dawson and Mr. Anthony Castle

This Inspection was carried out under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005.

**Type of School: Comprehensive
School Category: Voluntary Aided
Age range of pupils: 11 - 18
Gender of pupils: Mixed
Number on roll: 1705 (505 in Sixth Form)
Appropriate Authority: The Governing Body
Date of previous Inspection: March 2006**

**School Address:
Mornington Road,
Woodford Green, Essex IG8 0TP
Tel. No. 020 8504 3419
Fax No. 020 8505 7546
Chair of Governors: Mrs. G King
Headteacher: Dr. P. C. Doherty**

Introduction:

The Inspection was carried out under Section 48 of the Education (Schools) Act 2005 by inspectors appointed by the Diocesan Bishop at the request of the Governing Body of the School.

The Inspectors acknowledge and are appreciative of the full support, co-operation and courtesy they enjoyed from Governors, Headteacher, Staff and Pupils of the School both before and during the Inspection. The Inspectors wish to express their gratitude to all concerned.

The focus of the Section 48 Inspection was:

- Classroom Religious Education
- The Catholic nature of the School through;
 1. Worship
 2. Links with the Catholic and wider community
- Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development

The Section 48 Report

**Trinity Catholic High School,
Mornington Road,
Woodford Green,
Essex
IG8 0TP**

Head Teacher: Dr P. C. Doherty

Date of Inspection: 18th September 2009

Description of the School:

Trinity High School is a very large mixed Voluntary Aided Catholic Comprehensive School. It is a Science and Sports College. Trinity is a very popular, over subscribed school. It is situated in the North – East of the London Borough of Redbridge on the fringe of Epping Forest. The school is based on two sites about half a mile apart. In the main the students are socially confident and receptive to learning. They respond very well to the ethos of the school learning to support each other and be sensitive to those who are in need. Trinity Catholic High School's vision is based on Christ's maxim that "We love each other as we love ourselves". Teachers at Trinity are most skilled, caring and professional and work in an environment which is conducive to the education of all.

Record of Evidence Base:

Two Inspectors were in the School for the equivalent of two inspection days.

- The study of pre-inspection documentation including the Self-Evaluation Form/ Denominational Provision (SEF/DP).
- The observation of complete lessons.
- Scrutiny of students' work.
- Attendance at a Year 7 Mass
- Meetings with the Head Teacher, the School Manager, the two Chaplaincy Co-ordinators, a Foundation Governor and the two School Councils.
- Observations of R.E. Displays in the R.E. rooms and around the school.
- Visit to the School Chapel on the Upper Site

What the School does well:

Trinity High School continues to be an outstanding Catholic School which displays numerous strengths. It is firmly committed to developing its Catholic identity under the inspirational and outstanding leadership of its Head Teacher who is very well supported by his Senior Leadership team, Governors, Staff, Students and their parents/carers and dedicated local clergy.

The overall quality of teaching and learning in R.E. is outstanding. Lessons are well planned and paced, learning objectives are stated, explained and revisited. In lessons students were on task, engaged, highly motivated, challenged and enjoying their R.E. Behaviour is excellent and relationships and class management are strengths of the School.

There is a clear Department Assessment Policy. Teachers fully understand the levels /grade boundaries at all Key Stages and are competent in predicting attainment accurately. The Department has clear guidelines for marking, and students work is marked regularly in line with the Departments Marking Policy. Students taking GCSE in Religious Studies are making significant progress, well above the national average. At Key Stage 5, AS / A2 levels, students achieve exceptionally well. Results at the end of each Key Stage are outstanding.

The leadership and management of the R.E. Department by the Head of R.E. are outstanding. The R.E. team hold regular meetings. The Department promotes high expectations of both staff and students. Tracking, monitoring and target setting of students have led directly to examination success. The school uses the 'ICONS' programme of study and has customised it to meet the needs of the students.

The national and diocesan requirements for the allocation of curriculum time for taught R.E. is 10%.

Trinity High School promotes an outstanding and tangible Catholic ethos. This is subscribed to by all the stakeholders – Governors, the Head Teacher and his leadership team, staff, students and their parents. The School provides excellent opportunities for the students

to develop a strong sense of community through activities which engender feelings of loyalty and belonging. The School continues to develop strong links with other schools in the Deanery and beyond. Special attention is being given to the development of relations with other schools at home and abroad. Trinity High School is an outstanding example of Community and Social Cohesion.

Opportunities for collective worship and liturgical celebrations figure high on the school's list of priorities. The students respond enthusiastically on these occasions. There is a daily Mass on the Lower School site and Eucharistic Services each day in the Upper School Chapel. The Eucharist is the centre of the life of the school. These are attended by attentive congregations. Overall the quality of collective worship is outstanding. The liturgical life of the school is its cornerstone. All students are encouraged to live out their faith.

Displays and artefacts in R.E., in the R.E. classrooms and around the School, are of a very high quality.

Trinity High School values links with parents with every effort being made to improve and maintain communication through the very informative newsletter. There are strong links with the deanery priests and the local clergy who are frequent visitors to the school. All the stakeholders appreciate the time and friendship given to the school by the clergy. Links with the feeder primary schools and other Redbridge schools are in place.

Students are given every opportunity to become responsible citizens. This is evident in their concern for each other and for those who are in need. This is particularly evident by the outstanding generous fundraising for the numerous charities that the School supports. They have a strong sense of Social Justice as evidenced by the School's response to the 'Make Poverty History' CAFOD Campaign and the School's participation in the 'The East London Community Organisation' (TELCO). This dedication to Citizenship is celebrated by the School being represented at the annual 'Citizenship Awards' which takes place at Brentwood Cathedral each Summer.

The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the pupils is an outstanding strength of the School. This was recognised by its recent Ofsted report – 'Their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is excellent' The Section 48 Inspectors endorse this judgement wholeheartedly. The students exhibit outstanding behaviour, both in and out of the classroom. They also treat visitors with consideration and courtesy. Hospitality is an outstanding strength of Trinity High School.

Effectiveness of the Sixth Form

Trinity Catholic High School has a large and inclusive Sixth Form which provides an outstanding education for its students. Teaching and learning at AS and A2 levels are outstanding. Leadership and management of the Sixth Form are exceptionally and consistently high.

What needs to be improved :

There are no significant areas for improvement other than those highlighted in the Self Evaluation Form (SEF)

Overall, Trinity High School is an outstanding Catholic School which displays numerous strengths. It prepares its students so that they leave school happy, well-adjusted young adults who are a credit to themselves, their parents and their School. The School owes much of its success to the inspirational and committed leadership of the Headteacher and his Senior Leadership team and to the valued support and expertise of his staff and governors.